

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composite apparatus, comprising:
plurality of operationally associated processing means each having an independent timer for judging whether or not the timer is placed in a sleep state; and
control means for, when one processing means is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing means is ready, and when it is checked that such a processing means is ready, regardless of a state of the timer disposed in each of the processing means, controlling all the ready timers of the processing means to be placed in a sleep state in synchronism with a timer of the one operationally associated processing means placed in a sleep state.
2. (Original) A composite apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means further comprises an operating state sensing means for sensing an operating state of each processing means, and it is checked by the operating state sensing means as to whether or not processing means is ready.
3. (Currently Amended) A composite apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when each of said processing means has its own internal control means, the internal control means control each processing means respectively, to be placed in a sleep state.
4. (Currently Amended) A composite apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when each of said processing means has its own internal control means, communication is made between the internal control means and said control means, and it is judged whether or not the processing section can be placed in a sleep state based on the result.
5. (Currently Amended) A composite apparatus, comprising:

a power circuit configured to ~~supplying~~ supply power to each section;
a scanner section configured to ~~reading~~ read a manuscript, thereby acquiring manuscript image data;
a printer engine configured to ~~carrying~~ carry out print processing;
a facsimile device;
a printer controller having its own control section; and
a system controller for, when one operationally associated processing section of one of the scanner section, printer engine, facsimile device, and printer controller is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing section is ready, and, in the case that it is checked that another processing section is ready, regardless of the state of the timer disposed in each of the processing means, synchronizing all timers of the other processing sections that are ready with a timer of ~~such~~ the one operationally associated processing section placed in a sleep state, thereby controlling the power circuit to be driven and controlling the processing sections to be placed in a sleep state.

6. (Original) A composite apparatus according to claim 5, wherein, when said printer controller is placed in a sleep state, a system controller makes predetermined communication with a control section inside of the printer controller, and then, places the printer controller in a sleep state based on the result.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a composite apparatus having a plurality of processing means, comprising the steps of:

when one of a plurality of operationally associated processing means is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing means is ready;

when it is checked that such another processing means is ready, synchronizing all the timers of the processing means that are ready with a timer of ~~such~~ the one operationally associated processing means placed in a sleep state, regardless of the state of the timers of the processing means that are ready; and

placing ~~such~~ the one processing means and the processing means that is are ready in a sleep state.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a composite apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising the step of, in the case where each of said processing means has its own unique internal control means, making communication between the internal control means and ~~said~~ a system control means, and then, judging by the system control means whether or not the processing means can be placed in a sleep state based on the result.